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AUTHOR	Morice, Dave
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ABSTRACT

This collection of palindromes, pangrams, acrostics, word squares and word ladders, visual and numerical puzzles, silly names, and much more is designed to delight, surprise, and challenge both the novice and the expert player of word games. It uses the metaphor of a busy, cosmopolitan city to showcase three facets of words: forms of letters, combinations of sounds, and bearers of meaning. The collection contains a wide range of wordplay, from traditional to new forms. Chapters correspond to the letters of the alphabet. Most chapters focus on wordplay form (i.e., Chapter D, Pun Freeway), literary form (i.e., Chapter M, Story Row), or specific content (i.e., Chapter L, Numeric Overpass). Each chapter is made up of smaller sections, but sometimes the same section could fit into different chapters; for various reasons, some chapters are longer than others--either because of the complexity of the topic or the availability of the material. An afterword discusses mathematics and wordplay. (NKA)

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